

greater than yourself. Once again, the children of America believe in heroes, because they see them every day.

In these challenging times, the world has seen the resolve and the courage of America. I've been privileged to see the compassion and the character of the American people. All the tests of the last 2½ years have come to the right nation.

We are a strong country, and we use that strength to defend the peace. We're an optimistic country, confident in ourselves and in ideals bigger than ourselves. Abroad, we seek to lift whole nations by spreading freedom. At home, we seek to lift up lives by spreading opportunity across our land. This is the work that history has set before us. We welcome it and know that for our country, the best days lie ahead.

God bless. Thank you all. Thank you all very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:48 p.m. at the Marriott Rivercenter. In his remarks, he referred to Tom and Nancy Loeffler, event cohosts; Thomas R. Phillips, chief justice, Texas Supreme Court; Greg Abbott, Texas attorney general; Susan Combs, Texas agriculture commissioner; Albert Hawkins, Texas health and human services commissioner; Diane D. Rath, chair and commissioner, Texas Workforce Commission; State Senator Jeff Wentworth and State Representatives Elizabeth Ames Jones, Edmund Kuempel, and Ken Mercer of Texas; Gov. Rick Perry of Texas; and Priscilla Owen, nominee to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

October 25

In the morning, at Camp David, MD, the President had an intelligence briefing.

October 26

In the evening, the President returned to Washington, DC.

October 27

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

The President announced his intention to nominate Arnold I. Havens to be General Counsel for the Department of the Treasury.

The President declared a major disaster in California and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by wildfires on October 21 and continuing.

October 28

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, in the Oval Office, he met with President Ion Iliescu of Romania.

In the afternoon, in the Oval Office, the President met with economic advisers.

The White House announced that the President will host NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson for a meeting and working luncheon on November 12.

October 29

In the morning, the President had a breakfast meeting with Speaker of the House of Representatives J. Dennis Hastert, Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, Senate Minority Leader Thomas A. Daschle, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, and House Majority Leader Tom DeLay to discuss legislative priorities. Later, he had an intelligence briefing. He then met with the National Security Council and later with Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld.

Later in the morning, the President participated in a roundtable discussion on Medicare with Secretary of Health and Human Services Tommy G. Thompson, AARP President James G. Parkel, and a group of senior citizens.

In the afternoon, on the South Steps, the President participated in a photo opportunity with White House interns. Later, he traveled to Dallas, TX.

In the evening, the President traveled to the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX.

October 30

In the morning, the President traveled to Columbus, OH. While en route aboard Air Force One, he had an intelligence briefing. Upon arrival, he greeted USA Freedom Corps volunteer Leslie Gagne.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to San Antonio, TX, where, upon arrival, he greeted USA Freedom Corps volunteer Thom Ricks.

In the evening, the President returned to the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX.

October 31

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi of Italy to discuss reconstruction in Afghanistan and Iraq. Later, he had an intelligence briefing.

The President announced his intention to nominate Samuel Wright Bodman to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury.

The President announced his intention to nominate Eugene Welch Hickock, Jr., to be Deputy Secretary of Education.

The President announced his intention to nominate Brian Carlton Roseboro to be Under Secretary of the Treasury for Domestic Finance.

**Nominations
Submitted to the Senate**

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted October 29

Arnold I. Havens,
of Virginia, to be General Counsel for the Department of the Treasury, vice David Aufhauser.

Susan K. Sclafani,
of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Vocational and Adult Education, Department of Education, vice Carol D'Amico, resigned.

Submitted October 31

Walter D. Kelley, Jr.,
of Virginia, to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, vice Henry C. Morgan, Jr., retiring.

**Checklist
of White House Press Releases**

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released October 27

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to California

Released October 28

Statement by the Press Secretary: Visit of NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson

Released October 29

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Press Secretary: Northern Ireland Elections

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 1900, H.R. 3229, and S. 1591

Released October 30

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Transcript of a press briefing by Council of Economic Advisers Chairman Greg Mankiw and National Economic Council Chairman Stephen Friedman

Fact sheet: Tax Relief Helps Economic Growth

Released October 31

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan